REMARKS

Amendments to the Claims

Applicants presently cancel system claims 10-18 and computer program product claims 19-27, leaving only method claims in the present application. In amending the claims in the present application, Applicants do not concede that the claims as originally filed were not in a condition for allowance nor do these cancellations represent a disclaimer of the recited subject matter. Rather, Applicants reserve the right to pursue these cancelled system and product claims in one or more continuation applications. Applicants believe themselves entitled to pursue these claims in additional applications because the system and product claims are directed to an invention in a different statutory category than are the method claims that remain in this application. Applicants believe they are entitled to have claims directed to inventions in separate statutory categories issued in separate patents.

Applicants also amend claim 1 of the present application to include limitations previously found in claim 5 of Applicants' original application. As such, claim 5 is cancelled in this Response. Applicants further amend claim 1 to include the limitation "and the proxy permission has been granted by a proxy grantor." Support for this amendment is found in Applicants' original specification at page 16, lines 14-18. Applicants submit that these amendments do not introduce any new matter into the specification and submit that the claims as currently amended are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, claims 1-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Adams (U.S. Patent No. 2002/0124053). As discussed above, claims 5 and 10-27 are cancelled in this Response. To anticipate remaining claims 1-4 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, Adams must disclose and enable each and every element and limitation recited in the claims of the present application. As explained below, Adams does not

disclose and enable each and every element and limitation recited in the claims of the present application and therefore does not anticipate the claims of the present application.

**Adams Does Not Disclose Each and Every Element
Of The Claims Of The Present Application**

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). As explained in more detail below, Adams does not disclose each and every element of claim 1, and Adams therefore cannot be said to anticipate the claims of the present application within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Independent claim 1 recites:

1.   A method for controlling access to a computer resource, the method comprising:

receiving from a requesting entity a request for access to the computer resource;

determining that the requesting entity has a proxy permission, wherein the proxy permission has at least one associated proxy rule and the proxy permission has been granted by a proxy grantor, further comprising finding, in dependence upon a requesting entity identification, a proxy permission record in a proxy permission table; and

granting access to the computer resource in dependence upon the proxy rule.

**Adams Does Not Disclose Determining That
The Requesting Entity Has A Proxy Permission
As Claimed In The Present Application**

The Office Action at page 4 takes the position that Adams at paragraphs 0015-0017,

discloses the following limitation of claim 1: determining that the requesting entity has a

proxy permission, wherein the proxy permission has at least one associated proxy rule.

Applicants respectfully note in response, however, that what Adams at paragraph 0015-

0017, in fact discloses is:

[0015] Different access levels may be assigned to each one of the users
110, 112, 114, 116, 118 based on the social network data determined for
each user 110, 112, 114, 116, 118. For example, the access levels for a
computer file resource 170 (such as a Microsoft Word document, or a
hypertext markup language (HTML) file) may include: (1) no access--the
user is barred from accessing the resource 170; (2) read-only access--the
user can only read the file; (4) read/write access--the user can read and
write to the file; (5) execute access--the user can execute (run) the file, or
files in a directory; (6) create access--the user can create a new file in a
directory; (7) owner access--the user can modify the file, directory, etc.;
(8) all access--the user has access to all read, write, execute, and create
functions to the resource (file) 170; and (9) control access--the user has
access to control a remote-controlled device resource 170, including, for
example, remotely closing and opening physical doors. However, there
may be other access level types as well, such as the ability to change a
paper type in a paper tray (e.g., from draft paper to bonded paper) in a
shared printer resource 170. For a chat room or bulletin board service
application, various access types may include permissions to add, invite,
or ban users; permissions to view and/or write posted messages (bulletins);
or permissions to run scripts or programs within the chat rooms.

[0016] By utilizing the social network data based on a set of defined rules,
various access levels may be automatically configured for each user 110,
112, 114, 116, 118. For example, the access levels may follow a rule-set
based on the type and/or frequency of interaction (communications)
between the users 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120 as follows:

1TABLE 1 Social Interaction Type (Frequency) Determined from Social
Network Data Access Level Frequent e-mail communication, >10 per
week all access E-mail communication at >3 per week read/write access
and execute access E-mail communication at least once in two read-only
access weeks and execute access E-mail communication at least once a
month read-only access All other cases no access

[0017] However, the frequency of communication is but one possible criteria that may be extracted from the social network data to determine access levels. For example, access levels may be granted based on the topics mentioned in the communications between the users 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120. That is, the communications may be monitored so as to search for particular keyword(s). Then, access levels may be granted based on the number of occurrences of these particular keyword(s). The various access levels may be granted depending on the number of occurrences (i.e., the more times a specific keyword(s) is found in a communication, the higher level of access is granted). Different weights may be assigned to different keywords, so that certain keywords may have higher weights than others (thus leading to higher access levels). For example, a "point" system may be utilized to keep track of the number of points accumulated based on the occurrence of keywords detected in communications within a period of time. Access levels may also be determined by the user's identity (e.g., certain users are preset to have minimum access levels), the chronology of the communications (e.g., users having more recent communications are granted higher access levels than users having less recent communications), or the resources (such as a particular file, type of file, a Web page, a document, etc.) transmitted to and/or received from the user. Access levels may also be determined by a user's interest in the shared resource 170, such that the greater the interest in the shared resource 170 (e.g., the greater the frequency of accessing the shared resource), the higher access level may be provided over time.

That is, Adams at paragraphs 0015-0017, discloses assigning user access levels to shared resources. Adams' assigning user access levels to shared resources does not disclose determining that the requesting entity has a proxy permission, wherein the proxy permission has at least one associated proxy rule as claimed in the present application because Adams' access levels do not disclose a *proxy permission* as claimed here. The term 'proxy' is defined to mean "the agency, function, or power of a person authorized to act as the deputy or substitute for another." *See*, Random House Unabridged Dictionary (2006). Proxy permission, as claimed here, is granted by a proxy grantor. That is, the present application recites that a proxy grantor grants proxy permission to a requesting entity, thereby authorizing the requesting entity to access a resource as the substitute of another entity. In contrast to the claims in the present application, Adams' merely discloses providing a user their own access level to a shared resource rather than granting proxy permission to a resource controlled by another entity. According to Adams'

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disclosure, a user gains access to a resource by virtue of the user having a sufficient access level to a resource – the user does not access a resource by virtue of a proxy grantor granting proxy permission for a user to access a resource as the substitute of another entity that has access rights to the resource. That is, the present application and Adams disclose entirely distinct methods of controlling access to a computer resource – Adams requires that a user obtains a certain access level to access a shared resource, while the present invention requires a proxy grantor to grant proxy permission to a user that would otherwise not have access to the resource. As such, Adams does not disclose proxy permissions as claimed here. Because Adams does not disclose proxy permissions as claimed in the present application, Adams cannot disclose determining that the requesting entity has a proxy permission, wherein the proxy permission has at least one associated proxy rule and the proxy permission has been granted by a proxy grantor as claimed in the present application. Because Adams does not disclose each and every element and limitation of Applicants' claims, Adams does not anticipate Applicants' claims, and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 should be withdrawn.

Adams Does Not Disclose Finding, In Dependence Upon A Requesting Entity Identification, A Proxy Permission Record In A Proxy Permission Table

Claim 1 is presently amended to include limitations previously found in claim 5 of Applicants' original application. The Office Action at page 5 takes the position that Adams at paragraph 0022 discloses limitations previously found in claim 5, and now found in claim 1 of the present application: finding, in dependence upon a requesting entity identification, a proxy permission record in a proxy permission table as claimed in the present application. Applicants respectfully note in response, however, that what Adams at paragraph 0022 actually discloses:

> [0022] By looking-up the access control list 150, a shared resource provider 160 is adapted to provide to the user 110 who is attempting to access the shared resource 170 the appropriate access level, and restrict access, if required. The ACL 150 may contain only the identity/access level pair information, or it may contain other information as well, such as a password to provide more precise access control based on the password(s) provided by the user.

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That is, Adams at paragraph 0022 discloses an access control list associated with a resource. Adams access control list, however, does not disclose finding, in dependence upon a requesting entity identification, a proxy permission record in a proxy permission table as claimed in the present application because Adams does not disclose a proxy permission record or a proxy permission table. Adams merely discloses an access control list that includes access control levels for users without making any disclosure at all regarding a proxy permission record in a proxy permission table. In fact, Adams only discloses a table that correlates an access level to the number of emails sent between two users – not a proxy permission table containing proxy permission records as claimed here. Because Adams does not disclose a proxy permission table containing proxy permission records, Adams cannot disclose finding, in dependence upon a requesting entity identification, a proxy permission record in a proxy permission table as claimed in the present application. Because Adams does not disclose each and every element and limitation of Applicants' claims, Adams does not anticipate Applicants' claims, and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 should be withdrawn.

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**Adams Does Not Enable Each and Every
Element Of The Claims Of The Present Application**

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Not only must Adams disclose each and every element of the claims of the present application within the meaning of *Verdegaal* in order to anticipate Applicants' claims, but also Adams must be an enabling disclosure of each and every element of the claims of the present application within the meaning of *In re Hoeksema*. In *Hoeksema*, the claims were rejected because an earlier patent disclosed a structural similarity to the Applicant's chemical compound. The court in *Hoeksema* stated: "We think it is sound law, consistent with the public policy underlying our patent law, that before any publication can amount to a statutory bar to the grant of a patent, its disclosure must be such that a skilled artisan could take its teachings in combination with his own knowledge of the particular art and be in possession of the invention." *In re Hoeksema*, 399 F.2d 269, 273, 158 USPQ 596, 600 (CCPA 1968). The meaning of *Hoeksema* for the present case is that unless Adams places Applicants' claims in the possession of a

person of ordinary skill in the art, Adams is legally insufficient to anticipate Applicants' claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102. As explained above, Adams does not disclose each and every element and limitation of amended independent claim 1 of the present application. Because Adams does not disclose each and every element and limitation of the independent claims, Adams cannot possibly place the elements and limitations of the independent claims in the possession of a person of ordinary skill in the art. Adams cannot, therefore, anticipate claim 1 of the present application.
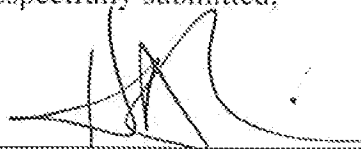
Relations Among Claims

Claims 2-4 and 6-9 depend from independent claim 1. Each dependent claim includes all of the limitations of the independent claim from which it depends. Because Adams does not disclose or enable each and every element of independent claim 1, Adams does not disclose or enable each and every element of the dependent claims of the present application. As such, claims 2-4 and 6-9 are also patentable and should be allowed.

Conclusion

Claims 1-4 and 6-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Adams. Adams does not disclose each and every element of Applicants' claims. Adams therefore does not anticipate Applicants' claims. Claims 1-4 and 6-9 are therefore patentable and should be allowed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 1-4 and 6-9.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 09-0447 for any fees required or overpaid.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: __April 17, 2008__   By: _____

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